

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re Patent Application of )

Anette KARLSSON et al. )

Application No.: Unassigned )

Filed: Herewith )

For: METHOD FOR ELIMINATING )  
DETRIMENTAL SUBSTANCES IN )  
A PROCESS LIQUID )

Group Art Unit: Unassigned

Examiner: Unassigned

6/B  
D.B.  
8-21-02

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Prior to examination of the above-captioned application, please enter the following amendment.

**IN THE CLAIMS:**

Please cancel Claims 1-17.

Please add the following new Claims 18-36.

18. (New) A method for inactivating detrimental substances in a process liquid comprising said detrimental substances, suspended material, and metal ions comprising hydroxide builders, said method comprising:

adding to the process liquid carbon dioxide in an amount sufficient to:

primarily form bicarbonate ions ( $\text{HCO}_3^-$ ) having a pH-buffering effect;